

# THE IDLE HOUR

The  
Home  
Of  
Good  
Pictures

Wm. S. Hart

—in—  
"Blue Blazes  
Rawden"

Hart's performance in the title role, is one of the best things he has given in his long gallery of memorable creations. It's a "Pippin."

**SUNDAY**

Shows continuously 2:30 to 10:30

Tom Moore

—in—  
"Brown of Harvard"

A corking good feature and a very funny comedy also

Billy West

—in—  
"The Stranger"

**WEDNESDAY**

Matinee 2:30 Evening 7:00-8:30

Dorothy Dalton

—in—  
"Flare-Up Sal"

A story of the western dance halls. As good as "The Flame of the Yukon." Don't miss it.

Benjamin Chapin

—in—  
"My Father"

**THURSDAY**

Matinee 2:30 Evening 7:00-8:30

## RAPID GROWTH MARKS ALMA AS WONDER CITY

(Continued from page one)

during the slicing season, is one of Alma's fine business institutions which is also making the Alma of today.

The X-Cel-All company, and the Western Carburetor company, two of Alma's new concerns, are aiding in making Alma boom. The former is the latest addition to the factories of Alma and is enjoying a business even now that it cannot keep pace with, so great are the demands for the paint of this concern. It has a fine factory home located on the ground in the southeastern part of the city, obtained from the Board of Trade. The Western Carburetor company, brought here from Iowa about a year ago, is full of promise for the future, and it is believed in many quarters that this concern will make a valuable asset to the community. The Gratiot County Gas company, organized here four years ago, is one of the growing business institutions of the city, piping gas to St. Louis, Breckinridge and Ithaca, as well as furnishing Alma. It has enjoyed a great growth until just recently when war prices have caused the concern to retrench in many respects. Its future is assured, however, once the war is brought to an end.

The Central Michigan Light & Power company is another concern which found the lure of progressive Alma too great to resist,



A Charming River View

and last year this concern, which has been supplying Alma with electric power for some years, decided to establish its main plant in Alma, and its new \$200,000 hydro-electric power house is the result.

The Alma of the past five years speaks in glowing terms of what may be expected of the Alma of the future. Develop industrially, live up to the new name, "Alma, the Wonder City of Michigan," and grow, grow more rapidly in the future than in the past.

It can be done. What has been done can be done again. A hustling Board of Trade, backed solidly by the business men of the city, can do wonders—can do the seemingly impossible—the story of Alma's growth shows that conclusively.

To bring about this development it must be remembered that a city needs homes for her workers. Right now this is one of the crying needs of Alma. Alma even now could probably use one thousand more homes than she has, homes of the workingman. To develop to her utmost she must have homes for her workers, must be able to show the prospective manufacturer that his workers can find locations, can locate homes within the city.

Today there is a large overflow from Alma, an overflow which is being taken care of in our neighboring cities. Alma must take care of her own.

Alma people in carving out their future, as a city, should not overlook this highly important end of city making, and developing. The bonds have already been sold, the Detroit Trust company being the purchaser.

Three temporary school buildings are also in use here, in addition to the three splendid school buildings which the city has. One of these will be done away with, perhaps two of them, by the coming of the new ward school; the other in the south end of the city will be continued, it being needed for the little tots in that part of the city, who are unable to walk a long distance to school.

Several hundred have been graduated from the Alma high school, and the records of these are such as the city can well be proud of the education which she has been bestowing upon her young. Few have become wealthy, as worldly possessions count, but almost every one of them has become a useful, law abiding citizen, leading a life of helpfulness in his or her community. The fingers of the two hands would count those who have turned out as n'er-do-wells. Many of its graduates are now finding themselves on the front line trenches in France and in the training camps of America, their education having decided for them their duty in this critical hour.



Alma's Proposed \$45,000 Ward School

## MUNICIPALITY IMPROVEMENTS

(Continued from page one)

very soon it must be enlarged or another constructed in its place.

As a means of fire protection, Alma, wide awake to such needs, maintains a fire truck, built by the Republic, and also a hook and ladder wagon. The city has a fine part paid volunteer department, which has proven highly efficient in the past.

In the belief that a commission form of city government will aid in making the city more efficient, and make needed municipal improvements come with more rapidity, and place them where they are most needed, the citizens of Alma this spring voted by a large majority to have a commission form of city government, and under such a government expects more rapid advances in the next few years than the city has seen in the past few years.

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or fried corn meal mush with syrup provides a feast fit for a king.

Besides corn meal mush is easily and quickly made and is thoroughly nutritious, providing a splendid substitute for wheat flour.

Our country needs the wheat flour so why not use more corn meal. You will render a splendid service by doing so.

Suppose you order a sack of

## Rowena Corn Meal

at once and have mush and milk or fried mush and syrup, maple syrup preferred, for lunch or dinner.

Surprise the men folks. They will enjoy a change occasionally, and so will you.

Be sure to specify Rowena Corn Meal when ordering as this meal is manufactured from strictly choice yellow kiln-dried corn, and the meal is thoroughly sterilized before sacking, insuring a product of highly nutritious and delicious, appetizing qualities.

Remember the name—Rowena Corn Meal. It's full guaranteed.

**VALLEY CITY MILLING COMPANY**  
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Sole Manufacturers of  
Lilly White Flour, "Yea Ma'am" Graham Flour, Granena Whole Wheat Flour,  
Rowena Rye Flour, Rowena Corn Meal, and other cereal specialties.



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## Messinger's Man's Store

Outfitters for Lad and Dad

Opp. Wright House



CHARLES R. MURPHY  
Alma's Leading Druggist

One of the most popular of the business places in Alma is the business home of Charles R. Murphy, "your druggist," which is located right on the main corner of the city.

The drug store, which was acquired by Mr. Murphy two years ago, after sixteen years behind its counters, during which time he has gained a most valuable practical experience to add to his years of education in this work, has peculiarly fitted him to be "your druggist." He also has an able assistant, who has been with the store for some years.

Prescription work is one of the specialties of the Charles R. Murphy Drug Store, and a complete line of drugs and medicines, including the Penslar and San Tox lines are carried, and they are carefully compounded to suit the needs of each individual case, as it arises. Medicines of all kinds can be found there when wanted as well as toilet articles of every variety.

Kodaks and kodak supplies, stationery and supplies, books of nearly all kinds, leather goods, ivory goods, candies, cigars and tobaccos can at all times be found there in large quantities.

The Record \$1.50